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County Borough of Tynemouth

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FORTY-EIGHTH  
ANNUAL REPORT  
on the  
Medical Inspection  
of School Children

1956






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SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE DEPARTMENT,  
PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE,  
PRESTON ROAD,  
NORTH SHIELDS,  
5.4.57.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
COUNTY BOROUGH OF TYNEMOUTH EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that I present to you the Forty-eighth Annual Report on the work of the School Health Service for the year 1956, in the form required by the Ministry of Education under Regulation 13 of the School Health Service and Handicapped Pupils Regulations 1953.

Dr. Margaret B. Steel, Assistant Medical Officer of Health, resigned her appointment with this Authority on 10th March, 1956, and her successor, Dr. Margaret A. Loraine, commenced duty on 19th March, 1956. Dr. Loraine was responsible for the medical work in connection with handicapped children, also for the work in the Tynemouth Open-Air Day School and the Lovaine House Special Day School for educationally sub-normal children. Dr. Loraine also held clinics in order to deal with special cases. On an average, she has devoted three sessions per week to the School Health Service.

Periodic inspections and re-inspections in the schools were again carried out by two part-time Medical Officers, Dr. A. E. White and Dr. Elspeth C. Spencer. Dr. White devoted three sessions per week to periodic inspections and re-inspections in the schools, and one session per week to work in the school clinic. Dr. Spencer devoted her two sessions per week to periodic inspections and re-inspections in the schools.

Two Consultant Ophthalmologists, Mr. H. Vernon Ingram and Mr. J. S. Arkle, visited the School Clinic at the Public Health Department every alternate week on a Thursday morning to carry out refraction and consultant work.

Miss Marilyn F. Brown is in charge of the Orthoptic Clinic which is held every Thursday, morning and afternoon sessions. This Clinic is under the direction of Mr. H. Vernon Ingram and Mr. J. S. Arkle.

School Clinics were held at the Public Health Department, Preston Road, North Shields, on the following sessions:—

*Medical Clinics.*

Monday morning, Wednesday morning and afternoon.

*Refraction Clinic.*

Thursday morning—alternate weeks.



*Orthoptic Clinic.*

Thursday morning and afternoon.

*Ultra Violet Light Clinic.*

Tuesday and Friday afternoons.

*School Nurse's Clinics for the Treatment of Minor Ailments.*

Monday afternoon, Tuesday morning, Wednesday afternoon, Thursday morning and Friday morning.

*Dental Clinics.*

One Dental Clinic was held at the Education Office, The Chase, North Shields, and another at the Royal Jubilee School, Albion Road, North Shields.

*Speech Therapy Clinic.*

This clinic is held in Queen Victoria School, Coach Lane, North Shields.

It is contemplated that a scheme of B.C.G. vaccination for children in the 13-14 years old age group will be commenced during the year 1957.

In submitting this report, I take this opportunity to express my indebtedness to the Chairman and Members of the School Health Services Sub-Committee, to the Chief Education Officer and to the staff of this Department for their willing help and co-operation, in the interests of the School Health Service, throughout the year.

R. H. DAWSON,  
*Medical Officer of Health and  
Principal School Medical Officer.*

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

**Schools in the Borough**

County Primary .....	12
Voluntary Primary .....	4
Secondary Modern .....	2
Open-Air Day School for Delicate Children .....	1
Special School for Educationally Sub-normal Children	1
Tynemouth High (Grammar) School .....	1
School Population in December, 1956 .....	10,910

**Co-ordination.**

Arrangements in this area provide for continuity of supervision of the health of certain children from infancy to the end of school life, Maternity and Child Welfare Service records of pre-school children who had defects being transferred to the School Health Service when children reached the age of 5 years.

Co-ordination between the school health service, the Council's other services, the hospital services and private practitioners has been maintained.

### **Diphtheria Immunisation.**

Facilities were again made available for diphtheria immunisation at the various Maternity and Child Welfare Centres of the Public Health Department.

During the year, 721 children received a complete course of injections, 70 being school children and 651 pre-school children.

In addition, 513 children of all ages were given reinforcing injections.

It is estimated that at 31st December, 1956, 74.83 per cent of the child population (i.e. children under 15 years of age) had been immunised, as compared with 74.07 per cent in 1955.

### **School Meals and Milk.**

During 1956, one-day returns showing the number of children having school dinners and milk were taken on a specified day in October.

The total number taking meals was 2,836 of which 386 were free of charge, this former figure being 27.41 per cent of the school roll. The percentage taking school milk was 82.56.

From 1st September, 1956, non-maintained schools were included in the Milk in Schools Scheme under the responsibility of the local education authority.

On 1st September, 1956, the price of school meals was increased from 9d. to 10d per meal, and there was no decrease in the number of meals required.

As in previous years, plums and rhubarb were bottled, but gooseberries were found to be expensive, and therefore, not available for school meals purposes.

The Queen Victoria Dining Hall ceiling was treated with Pyrok to prevent excessive condensation; this has proved to be very satisfactory.

### **Medical Inspections.**

Periodic medical inspections of:—

(a) Entrants—children in their first year of attendance at a maintained primary infant school.

(b) Second age group—children in the last year of attendance at a maintained primary junior school.

(c) Third age group—children in the last year of attendance at a maintained secondary school.

(d) Other routine inspections—children of all ages in attendance at the Special School for educationally sub-normal children.

Prior to the periodic medical inspection of the children in these age groups, the schools were visited by a School



Nurse/Health Visitor, who weighed and measured the children and tested their vision, with the exception of those in the "Entrant" group. At the actual inspection the Medical Officer was accompanied by a Nurse. Parents were invited to be present at these inspections, thus affording an opportunity for a parent to discuss with the Medical Officer matters relating to the child's health, and, in the case of children in the "third age group", the future employment of the child.

The percentage of parents who were present at periodic inspections was 69.52 as compared with 68.4 in 1955; 76.9 in 1938 and 76.4 in 1937.

Special inspections and re-inspections were also conducted in each school department once during the year.

### Findings of Medical Inspection.

The defects found at periodic medical inspections in the schools and special inspections in the school clinics and schools, which required treatment or to be kept under observation are shown in Table III, A and B, on pages 22 and 23 of this report.

Of the 2,802 children examined at periodic medical inspections, the physical condition of 2,798 or 99.86 per cent, was recorded as satisfactory.

The following table shows the average heights and weights of boy and girl entrants selected at intervals, over a period of years, since periodic medical inspection commenced.

**AVERAGE HEIGHTS AND WEIGHTS OF  
BOY AND GIRL ENTRANTS  
(5 year old age group)**

Year	BOY ENTRANTS		GIRL ENTRANTS	
	Average Heights		Average Heights	
	ft.	ins.	ft.	ins.
1909	3	3.7	3	3.5
1918	3	4.7	3	4.0
1927	3	5.2	3	5.0
1936	3	6.2	3	6.1
1945	3	7.0	3	7.0
1950	3	7.0	3	6.5
1951	3	6.7	3	6.5
1952	3	7.3	3	6.8
1953	3	7.4	3	7.8
1954	3	7.3	3	6.7
1955	3	7.5	3	7.2
1956	3	7.5	3	6.9

### Uncleanliness—Head.

(i) GIRLS. Of the 1,410 girls examined at periodic inspections, 67 or 4.8 per cent were recorded as having nits;

17 or 1.2 per cent of these had a minor infestation only.

(ii) BOYS. Of the 1,392 boys examined at periodic inspections, 10 were recorded as having nits, of these 1 had a minor infestation only.

### **Surprise Cleanliness Surveys.**

In 1956, 19,451 examinations for uncleanness were made in the schools by the nursing staff. 909 pupils were found to be infested, 634 of these pupils were issued with cleansing notices. The supervision and treatment of certain children, found to have dirty heads and referred to the School Clinic, was carried out by the Nurse at the Minor Ailment Clinic.

### **Follow Up Investigations.**

During the year the Nurses followed up 424 cases which were under observation or treatment. In this connection 240 home visits were made and 460 inspections were carried out in the schools.

### **Minor Ailments.**

Minor Ailment Clinics were held at the Public Health Department, when a School Nurse was in attendance on five sessions per week for the treatment of children with minor injuries, sores and minor skin conditions, etc., referred from schools or by a medical officer. 323 cases attended the Clinic, and made 1,297 attendances. This compares with 371 cases and 2,124 attendances in 1955, 373 cases and 1,983 attendances in 1954, and 1,143 cases and 8,042 attendances in 1948.

### **Scabies (Itch).**

13 children, as compared with 4 in 1955, were recorded as having received treatment at the School Clinic for scabies.

The following table shows the number of cases of scabies treated at the School Clinic for the past twelve consecutive years.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of cases of scabies treated at the School Clinic</i>			
1945	...	...	...	227
1946	...	...	...	136
1947	...	...	...	91
1948	...	...	...	47
1949	...	...	...	7
1950	...	...	...	8
1951	...	...	...	5
1952	...	...	...	13
1953	...	...	...	2
1954	...	...	...	1
1955	...	...	...	4
1956	...	...	...	13



### **Defective Vision and Squint.**

The vision of first year entrants to Primary Junior Schools was checked by a Health Visitor or School Nurse, and any child suspected of having a visual defect was referred to a Medical Officer for further investigation.

During the year 183 Forms O.S.C. 10—as compared with 175 in 1955, 176 in 1954, and 129 in 1953—authorising the repair or replacement of spectacles, were issued by the School Medical Officers.

### **Eye Testing Clinic.**

193 children had their eyes tested by an Ophthalmic Surgeon at the School Clinic. Spectacles were prescribed for 154 of these children. We also have a record that 188 children had their eyes tested by opticians. Spectacles were prescribed for 159 of these.

### **Orthoptic Clinic.**

This clinic is held morning and afternoon, every Thursday, at the Public Health Department.

The following is a report by the Orthoptist, Miss Marilyn F. Brown, on the work carried out at this clinic during the year 1956.

## **ORTHOPTIC CLINIC**

### **Report for 1956.**

A total of 166 children have now been registered in the Orthoptic Clinic. During 1956, 44 school children and 14 pre-school children have been registered as patients.

Of this total 41 were referred by the two Consultant Ophthalmologists at this clinic. A further 17 patients were transferred from the following hospitals:—

The Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle ..... 7

The Fleming Memorial Hospital, Newcastle ..... 1

The General Hospital, Newcastle ..... 4

Five children were referred for treatment by local opticians.

A total of 143 school children, and 14 pre-school children received treatment at the clinic during the period January 1st—December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1956. Of these patients, 23 were discharged, 6 patients having been cured, and will return for periodic refraction checks where necessary; 1 was improved; 5 were cosmetically satisfactory; 2 had left school; 6 failed to attend; and the remaining 3 were discharged, the parents having refused to allow operative treatment.

During the year, 9 children were admitted to the Royal Victoria and Fleming Memorial Hospitals, Newcastle, for operation, and a further 7 remained on the waiting list at the end of the year.



The total number of attendances of all cases during 1956 amounted to 791.

It is a matter for concern that a small number of parents have failed to see that their children attend even for their initial visit, and the attendances in several other cases have been so irregular as to deprive the children concerned of the full benefit of the treatment afforded.

MARILYN F. BROWN,  
*Orthoptist.*

### **Defective Hearing.**

Children who required audiometric investigation were referred to the Speech Therapist at the Local Authority's Speech Therapy Clinic and Audiology Centre, where, during the year, 18 children received audiometric tests.

We have a record of 9 children who have been provided with hearing aids.

### **Chronic Suppurative Otitis Media.**

During the year, 28 cases of chronic suppurative otitis media were treated—14 by private practitioners, 10 at hospitals, and 4 at the School Clinic.

### **Nose and Throat Defects.**

Of the 2,802 children examined at periodic inspections, 592 or 21.1 per cent were recorded as having had tonsillectomy.

### **Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.**

Of the 57 children recorded as having received treatment for orthopaedic and postural defects, 15 were treated as in-patients in hospitals.

The in-patients were treated for the following defects:—

<i>Defects</i>	<i>No. of Cases</i>
Arthrogryposis Multiplex Congenita ...	1
Bursa—Left Heel ...	1
Congenital Talipes Equino Varus ...	2
Exostoses Finger ...	1
Flexion Deformity of Hip due to Congenital Dislocation ...	1
Hallux Valgus ...	1
Old Poliomyelitis ...	3
Osteomyelitis Left Tibia ...	1
Perthe's Disease ...	1
Sherman's Disease of Spine and Multiple Rheumatic Complaints ...	1
Tuberculosis of Knee—suspected ...	2

The 42 children who received out-patient treatment suffered from the following defects:—

<i>Defects</i>	<i>No. of Cases</i>
Cerebral Ataxia and Apraxia ... ..	1
Cerebral Palsy ... ..	1
Congenital Shortening Leg ... ..	1
Convalescent Acute Arthritis ... ..	1
Flat-feet ... ..	10
Fracture ... ..	1
Hammer Toes ... ..	2
Hemiplegia ... ..	1
Injuries—Hand ... ..	1
Knock Knee ... ..	1
Old Poliomyelitis ... ..	3
Osteochondral Dystrophy ... ..	1
Osteochondritis of Left Tibial Tubercle (Osgood-Schlatter) ... ..	1
Rheumatism ... ..	1
Rheumatism—suspected ... ..	1
Rheumatoid Arthritis ... ..	1
Suspected early Palsy ... ..	1
Scoliosis ... ..	2
Scoliosis—congenital ... ..	1
Spastic Hemiplegia ... ..	2
Spastic—mild ... ..	1
Supernumerary Digits—Left Foot ... ..	1
Talipes ... ..	4
Tuberculosis Spine—quiescent ... ..	1
Tuberculosis Knee ... ..	1

### Other Defects Treated.

Other defects treated, not falling into the classification mentioned in Table IV, Groups 1—6 may be seen by referring to page 25, Group 7. Of the 149 miscellaneous minor ailments treated, 61 were minor injuries, 81 were sores.

### Infectious Diseases.

An extract from the Head Teachers' weekly returns of Infectious and Other Diseases for the past ten years is as follows:—

DISEASE	YEAR									
	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Scarlet Fever ..	18	47	27	55	33	22	35	20	25	31
Diphtheria ..	5	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ..	80	317	245	277	302	301	359	17	481	207
German Measles..	15	12	107	28	21	500	36	22	21	1219
Whooping Cough	78	105	70	164	105	84	213	71	157	170
Chicken Pox ..	353	279	123	392	693	503	320	493	150	455
Mumps ..	192	490	25	20	881	181	336	123	342	256
Ringworm ..	5	6	10	16	17	11	6	10	10	9
Impetigo ..	35	28	40	16	23	21	19	87	223	130
Scabies ..	45	17	5	10	9	4	2	1	7	17
Verminous Conditions .	8	18	15	7	14	9	10	9	12	3



From the above figures it will be seen that German Measles and Whooping Cough were particularly prevalent during the year under review, in fact, the number of cases of German Measles was greater than any recorded since these records were commenced in 1914.

I have pleasure in submitting the Thirty-second Report on School Dental Inspection and Treatment.

## **REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL SCHOOL DENTAL OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1956**

I have pleasure in submitting my Nineteenth Annual Report on the School Dental Inspections and Treatment for the year ending the 31st December, 1956, this being the Thirty-second Annual Report.

Full statistics of the work undertaken during the year may be seen elsewhere in this publication and the following is a brief description of the dental services provided.

During 1956 the resignation of Mr. R. E. O. Waddell, B.D.S., the Assistant Dental Officer, was followed by the appointment of Miss L. Robinson, B.D.S., to succeed him in this post at the Jubilee School Dental Clinic.

General anaesthetics continued to be administered by Dr. J. R. Steadman and his services were of great value and assistance throughout the year.

Routine inspections in the Primary and Secondary Schools were held at intervals and a total of 7,020 children were examined. Of this number, 4,456 required some form of treatment and the acceptance rate by the parents was 63.9%.

At the Public Health Department the dental inspection of expectant mothers and pre-school children was undertaken each Monday afternoon and where the children required treatment this was carried out at the School Clinics. A total of 184 children and 16 adults were examined and 77 pre-school children received dental treatment.

As in previous years calcium products were distributed to many children who were found to have a deficiency and a good measure of success in dental and general health can be reported from this treatment.

Attendances by pupils from the Tynemouth High (Grammar) School numbered 153. These pupils required some form of dental treatment and the work undertaken included 97 fillings, 100 extractions and 21 other operations.

Children attending the Open-Air Day School and Lovaine House Special Day School were inspected in December when 99 children were examined. During the year 58 attendances were made for treatment at the Clinic.



Other dental treatment included Orthodontic work for the correction of misplaced teeth, the fitting of artificial dentures, gum treatments and the scaling and cleaning of teeth. A total of 1,096 operations of this nature were performed during the year.

Thanks are again due to the School Medical and Dental Staffs, the Dental Anaesthetist and the Teaching Staffs of all the Schools for their valued assistance so readily given on all occasions.

(Signed) RICHARD W. ESSENHIGH,  
Principal School Dental Officer.

### **Handicapped Pupils.**

Below is shown the number of children in the various categories of "Handicapped Pupils" normally residing in the area of this Authority, who were receiving their education in special schools at the end of the year 1956.

Blind Pupils	...	...	4 in a residential school.
Partially Sighted Pupils	1	in a residential school and 1 in the Tynemouth Open-Air Day School.	
Deaf Pupils	...	...	7 in a residential school.
Delicate Pupils	...	42	in the Tynemouth Open-Air Day School
Physically Handicapped Pupils	...	...	10 in the Tynemouth Open-Air Day School; 1 in attendance as a day pupil at a special school for spastic children; 1 in a residential school.
Educationally Sub-Normal Pupils	...	56	in the Lovaine House Special Day School and 1 in a residential school.
Maladjusted Pupils	...	1	in the Tynemouth Open-Air Day School.
Epileptic Pupils	...	2	in the Tynemouth Open-Air Day School.

At the end of the year under review, 9 children were on the registers of Hospital Special Schools.

### **Speech Therapy.**

I have pleasure in submitting a report by Miss D. Dobie, the Speech Therapist, who is in charge of the Local Education Authority's Speech Therapy Clinic.

## SPEECH THERAPY CLINIC

During the year, 155 children were treated at the Speech Therapy Clinic, their attendances totalling 2,048.

Of these, 46 were discharged after excellent progress, 31 were placed under review for periods ranging from 4 weeks to 6 months, 2 left school—treatment incomplete, and in 1 case treatment was discontinued for one year to allow home conditions to settle.

The number of stammerers treated was again high—59 received treatment—64 children were treated for articulatory defects, 12 retarded language development, 3 voice disorders, 1 cleft palate, and 1 dysphasia due to brain injury from accident.

18 children received audiometer tests during the year—of these all but two showed degrees of deafness.

The attendance during the year was exceptionally good, parents being most co-operative and anxious to help their children.

Daily practice was again very kindly undertaken by the teacher, in the case of 4 children whose parents were either unwilling or unable to do so.

Towards the end of the year, a scheme for even closer co-operation between the schools and the Speech Clinic was inaugurated—the closest co-operation between these two is vital to the interest of the speech-handicapped child.

DOROTHY DOBIE,  
*Speech Therapist.*

### **Tynemouth Open-Air Day School and Lovaine House Special Day School.**

Regular visits were again made to the Open-Air Day School by the Assistant Medical Officer of Health and a Health Visitor. 121 re-examinations were carried out by the Medical Officer to check on children's progress and to ascertain if they were fit to return to an ordinary school.

One boy gained an entry to the Tynemouth High (Grammar) School—he had been a pupil at the Open-Air School since October 1951.

Of the 16 children referred for examination with a view to admission to Lovaine House Special Day School, it was recommended that 6 should continue their education in an ordinary school; the remaining 10 children were admitted to the special school.

I have pleasure in submitting the Reports of the Head-mistress, Miss E. McRitchie, giving details of the work of the two Special Schools.



## TYNEMOUTH OPEN-AIR DAY SCHOOL

### Report for 1956.

The usual peaceful atmosphere which normally is to be found in the Open-Air School has been very much disturbed this year, for in April, the proposed alterations to the school were started and the workmen have been installed since then. Many difficulties have been experienced, but, nevertheless, school work has been carried on without the necessity for closing the school. My sincere thanks are due to the teaching and domestic staffs for the splendid way in which they have accomplished their duties in the midst of so much turmoil. We look forward to the completion of the alterations which I can foresee are going to ensure a smooth running routine.

The inclement weather of the summer was a trial too, because most of the work had to be done indoors, to the disappointment of all concerned.

The year commenced with a roll of 55 children, 21 boys and 34 girls. During the year 14 children, 8 boys and 6 girls, were admitted, and 1 boy and 3 girls were re-admitted. Referring to the 4 re-admissions, 2 children had been in hospital, 1 in a Convalescent Home and 1 child had been away from the district.

18 children, 8 boys and 10 girls, were discharged.

The average number on the roll for the year was 56 and the average attendance 47 or 83.9%.

During the year no children were admitted from the Chest Clinic. The following were the ailments of the children admitted by the School Medical Officer.

Post Rheumatic Fever—mild carditis ... ..	1
Asthmatic ... ..	1
Mild Spastic ... ..	1
Debility ... ..	1
Debility—Pulmonary systolic murmur ... ..	1
Suspected Rheumatic condition—General Debility ...	1
Congenital Heart Disease ... ..	1
Mitral Stenosis ... ..	1
Nervous Child ... ..	1
Nervousness and repeated headaches ... ..	1
Underweight ... ..	1
Petit Mal ... ..	1
T.B. Right Knee ... ..	1
Developmental—Suspected Educationally Sub-normal ... ..	1
Total	14



The children discharged by the School Medical Officer during the year may be divided into the following groups:—

Transferred to Primary or Secondary Modern Schools as fit after medical examination ... ..	3
Left at age 15 years ... ..	3
Left district (later re-admitted) ... ..	1
Ineducable—removed to Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital ... ..	2
Edith Brough Home—Whickham (later re-admitted)	1
Transferred to Lovaine House Special School ...	1
Gained admission to High School ... ..	1
Admitted to Hospital (later re-admitted) ... ..	1
Deceased ... ..	1
	<hr/>
Total	14
	<hr/>

The duration of their stay in the Open-Air School is—

<i>Length of Stay</i>	<i>Number of Children</i>
10 to 11 years ... ..	1
4 to 5 years ... ..	2
3 to 4 years ... ..	3
2 to 3 years .. ...	1
1 to 2 years ... ..	2
Under 1 year ... ..	5
	<hr/>
Total	14
	<hr/>

Children discharged by Chest Physician:

Transferred to Primary School as fit after medical examination ... ..	4
--	---

The period of time spent in the Open-Air School by these children is:—

<i>Duration of Stay</i>	<i>Number of Children</i>
5 to 6 years ... ..	1
3 to 4 years ... ..	2
2 to 3 years ... ..	1
	<hr/>
	4
	<hr/>

It was with very mixed feelings that we had to bid farewell in March to Dr. M. B. Steel, Assistant Medical Officer, on the occasion of her marriage. Throughout the years she proved herself to be a very good friend indeed of

all in the Special Schools, for she was keenly interested in every child who came under her care.

I wish to place on record my appreciation of all the help and guidance she gave to me, and I should also like to take this opportunity of wishing her a long and very happy married life.

We welcome Dr. M. A. Loraine as her successor and hope that she will find as much happiness with us as Dr. Steel did.

Already, I have found Dr. Loraine most co-operative and helpful. I value very highly this close co-operation of the Medical Staff and myself, for without it, special school work could be very much more difficult.

In the near future, the N.U.T. Advisory Committee for Special Schools is to meet the President and Secretary of the School Health Service Group of the Society of Medical Officers of Health to discuss the right relationship which should exist between School Medical Officers and the teaching staffs of special schools. To quote from an article about this meeting, "Nowhere are the duties of two professions more closely allied and it is vital that they should work together in full understanding." We in Tynemouth are fortunate, for we are already in this happy position.

Throughout the year, in spite of all the changes, medical supervision of the children was well maintained.

For the greater part of the year minor ailments have been treated at the Clinic owing to lack of suitable accommodation during the alterations.

A routine dental inspection was carried out in December and emergency cases were treated speedily.

Bathing of the children was cancelled, and this was also because of the alterations.

Other routine arrangements with regard to provision of meals, milk under the Milk in Schools Scheme, transport of children and weighing of children fortnightly were as usual.

There were no changes in either teaching or domestic staffs. Mrs. E. Maw has completed her first year in special school work and is keenly interested. She is proving a valuable member of the teaching staff.

I am pleased to be able to report that one boy passed the first test of the Grading Examination at  $10\frac{1}{2}$  years of age, and is now attending the High School. He was admitted to the Open-Air School when he was 6 years old.

In conclusion, I thank all who are associated with the school for their valuable assistance and willing co-operation during the year.

E. McRITCHIE,  
*Headmistress.*



## LOVAINE HOUSE SPECIAL SCHOOL

### Report for 1956.

The year began with 49 children, 35 boys and 14 girls on the roll.

During the year 10 children, 6 boys and 4 girls, were admitted and 3 children were re-admitted. 5 children, 2 boys and 3 girls, were discharged, but 1 boy and 1 girl of this group were re-admitted.

The average number on the roll was 52, and the average attendance 47 or 90.3%.

The children who were discharged may be divided into the following groups:—

Left at age of 16 years	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ineducable	...	...	...	...	...	1
Left district but later re-admitted	...	...	...	...	...	1
Edith Brough Home Whickham (re-admitted)	...	...	...	...	...	1
Removed to St. George's Hospital, Morpeth	...	...	...	...	...	1
						5

The following table shows the mental grades of the children on the roll at the end of the year.

Intelligence Quotients	80 or over		70 to 79		60 to 69		50 to 59		Below 50	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Number of children in each grade	4	2	11	1	8	5	16	7	2	2
	6		12		13		23		4	

This table illustrates very clearly the very low mentality of a large proportion of the children in school at present.

Many of these unfortunate children would benefit much more from being in an occupation centre which I hope will materialise in the not too distant future.

Referring to the work of the school, a year of fairly steady progress can be reported. The school has been fully staffed and this has shown results. Mr. J. Collingwood who joined the teaching staff in January is proving a most co-operative member, and is showing a deep understanding of the needs of the children who attend the school.

Mrs. Sherrington resigned from teaching at the end of the Summer term. I thank her for her loyal assistance, and wish her luck and happiness in the future. Mrs. Fawcett, supply teacher, filled the vacancy immediately after the Summer holiday.



Routine arrangements of mid-day meals, milk under the Milk in Schools Scheme, and conveyance of children by bus were as usual.

Before her retirement in March, Dr. Steel re-tested almost all of the children on the roll.

Treatment of minor ailments was carried out at the Clinic.

The older boys again enjoyed swimming lessons during the summer months, and are now spending two periods per week playing football at a playing field.

An afternoon's outing by private bus to Hexham on 6th July was enjoyed by children and staff. After a drive through Hexhamshire, a picnic tea on the green at Hexham and a shopping expedition, the children were quite ready for the return journey home.

It was gratifying to learn that one of our girls who had gained her transfer to a Secondary Modern School in July, 1955, had earned a prize for her work there, and was on the July, 1956, prize list.

In concluding this report, I wish to express my sincere thanks to all those who are connected with the school for their loyal co-operation and assistance so readily given.

E. McRITCHIE,  
*Headmistress.*

### **Tynemouth High (Grammar) School.**

Periodic inspections were carried out in respect of 170 pupils in attendance at the Tynemouth High (Grammar) School, 98 pupils were also re-examined at the time of the Medical Officer's visit to the school.

### **Nursery Schools.**

Arrangements for the medical inspection of children attending the Sir James Knott Nursery School at Tynemouth, and the Howdon Road Nursery School at North Shields, continued as in past years.

The schools were again visited regularly by the Honorary Medical Officer, every child being seen once; special cases were seen more frequently. The Health Visitors for the areas paid frequent visits to the two Nursery Schools, weekly when possible.

### **Miscellaneous Medical Examinations.**

163 children were medically examined in accordance with the Children and Young Persons Act 1933; employment certificates were granted in all cases.

## STATISTICAL TABLES.

Statistical tables required by the Ministry of Education follow.

### MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1956

**TABLE I.**

Medical Inspection of Pupils attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools (including Special Schools).

*(This return refers to a complete calendar year.)*

#### A.—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Age Groups inspected and Number of Children examined in each:							
Entrants	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,039
Intermediates	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,093
Leavers	..	..	..	..	..	..	631
Total							2,763
Additional Periodic Inspections							39
GRAND TOTAL							2,802

#### B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	..	..	..	..	284
Number of Re-inspections	..	..	..	..	1,848
Total					2,132

#### C.—PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

Number of Individual Pupils found at Periodic Medical Inspection to Require Treatment (excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin).

Age Groups Inspected.	For defective vision (excluding squint).	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table III.	Total individual pupils.
Entrants .. .. .	7	109	108
Intermediates .. ..	108	75	181
Leavers .. .. .	107	45	145
Total .. .. .	222	229	434
Additional Periodic Inspections .. .. .	2	2	4
Grand Total .. .. .	224	231	438



D.—CLASSIFICATION OF THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED IN THE AGE GROUPS RECORDED IN TABLE I.A.

Age Groups Inspected	Number of Pupils Inspected	Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
		No.	% of Col.(2)	No.	% of Col.(2)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Entrants .. ..	1039	1036	99.71	3	0.29
Intermediates ..	1093	1093	100	—	—
Leavers .. ..	631	630	99.84	1	0.16
Additional Periodic Inspections ..	39	39	100	—	—
Total ..	2802	2798	99.86	4	0.14

TABLE II.

INFESTATION WITH VERMIN.

(i) Total number of individual examinations of pupils in schools by the school nurses or other authorised persons	19,451
(ii) Total number of <i>individual</i> pupils found to be infested ..	909
(iii) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944) ..	634
(iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944) ..	—

TABLE III.

RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION  
IN THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1956

## A.—PERIODIC INSPECTIONS

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease	PERIODIC INSPECTIONS				TOTAL (including all other age groups inspected)	
		Entrants		Leavers		Requiring Treatment	Requiring Observation
		Requiring Treatment	Requiring Observation	Requiring Treatment	Requiring Observation		
4	Skin .. ..	4	2	8	—	6	—
5	Eyes: a. Vision ..	7	1	107	4	110	5
	b. Squint ..	38	—	16	—	33	—
	c. Other ..	1	2	2	—	1	3
6	Ears: a. Hearing	2	1	2	—	1	9
	b. Otitis						
	Media	7	—	8	—	7	2
	c. Other ..	2	2	—	1	1	6
7	Nose and Throat	28	27	1	1	4	9
8	Speech .. ..	8	4	1	—	1	—
9	Lymphatic						
	Glands	1	—	—	—	1	2
10	Heart .. ..	1	2	2	11	—	8
11	Lungs .. ..	7	4	1	1	5	3
12	Developmental:						
	a. Hernia ..	1	2	—	—	—	—
	b. Other ..	4	7	—	—	2	2
13	Orthopædic:						
	a. Posture ..	2	1	—	—	1	1
	b. Feet ..	9	—	—	—	5	—
	c. Other ..	6	—	—	2	3	1
14	Nervous System:						
	a. Epilepsy	—	—	2	—	—	—
	b. Other ..	—	5	—	—	4	1
15	Psychological:						
	a. Development	—	1	—	—	—	—
	b. Stability ..	—	—	—	—	1	—
16	Abdomen ..	1	—	—	—	1	—
17	Other .. ..	1	4	3	1	4	2



## B.—SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease	Special Inspections	
		Requiring Treatment	Requiring Observation
4	Skin .. ..	18	1
5	Eyes: <i>a.</i> Vision ..	77	20
	<i>b.</i> Squint ..	23	—
	<i>c.</i> Other ..	7	—
6	Ears: <i>a.</i> Hearing	—	6
	<i>b.</i> Otitis		
	Media	3	—
	<i>c.</i> Other	5	2
7	Nose and Throat	19	6
8	Speech .. ..	2	1
9	Lymphatic		
	Glands	5	—
10	Heart .. ..	2	1
11	Lungs .. ..	11	1
12	Developmental:		
	<i>a.</i> Hernia	—	—
	<i>b.</i> Other ..	3	1
13	Orthopædic:		
	<i>a.</i> Posture ..	—	—
	<i>b.</i> Feet ..	2	—
	<i>c.</i> Other ..	3	1
14	Nervous System:		
	<i>a.</i> Epilepsy	1	—
	<i>b.</i> Other ..	7	10
15	Psychological:		
	<i>a.</i> Development	15	2
	<i>b.</i> Stability ..	3	—
16	Abdomen ..	—	1
17	Other .. ..	37	1

TABLE IV.

## TREATMENT TABLES.

GROUP 1.—EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint .. .. .	21	8
Errors of refraction (including squint) .. .. .	193	188
Total ..	214	196
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were prescribed	154	159

GROUP 2.—DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT.

	Number of cases known to have been treated	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
Received operative treatment		
(a) for diseases of the ear	—	2
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis ..	—	66
(c) for other nose and throat conditions ..	—	—
Received other forms of treatment .. .. .	13	43
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>111</b>
Total number of pupils in schools who are known to have been provided with hearing aids.		
(a) in 1956 .. .. .	—	1
(b) in previous years ..	—	8

GROUP 3.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

	By the Authority	Otherwise
Number of pupils known to have been treated at clinics or out-patients departments . . . . .	13	44

GROUP 4.—DISEASES OF THE SKIN (excluding uncleanness for which see Table II).

	Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year by the Authority
Ringworm—(i) Scalp .. ..	—
(ii) Body .. ..	—
Scabies .. ..	13
Impetigo .. ..	7
Other skin diseases .. ..	44
Total ..	64



## GROUP 5.—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT.

Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics under arrangements made by the Authority .. ..	1
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## GROUP 6.—SPEECH THERAPY.

Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapists under arrangements made by the Authority .. ..	155
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## GROUP 7.—OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN.

(a) Number of cases of mis- cellaneous minor ailments treated by the Authority	149
(b) Pupils who received con- valescent treatment under School Health Service arrangements .. ..	—
(c) Pupils who received B.C.G. vaccination ..	—
(d) Other than (a), (b) and (c) above	
1. Cardio - Vascular and Blood Conditions ..	5
2. Respiratory Conditions	16
3. Nervous System ..	4
4. Miscellaneous Condi- tions .. ..	44
Total ..	218

TABLE V.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT  
BY THE AUTHORITY.

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers:—		
(a) At Periodic Inspections .. .. .	7,020	
(b) As Specials .. .. .	941	
	<b>TOTAL (1)</b>	<b>7,961</b>
(2) Number found to require treatment .. .. .	4,456	
(3) Number offered treatment .. .. .	4,299	
(4) Number actually treated .. .. .	2,427	
(5) Number of attendances made by pupils for treatment, including those recorded at heading 11 (h) .. .. .	6,533	
(6) Half days devoted to: Periodic (School) Inspection ..	31	
Treatment .. .. .	932	
	<b>TOTAL (6)</b>	<b>963</b>
(7) Fillings: Permanent Teeth .. .. .	2,082	
Temporary Teeth: .. .. .	202	
	<b>TOTAL (7)</b>	<b>2,284</b>
(8) Number of teeth filled: Permanent Teeth .. .. .	1,782	
Temporary Teeth .. .. .	172	
	<b>TOTAL (8)</b>	<b>1,954</b>
(9) Extractions: Permanent Teeth .. .. .	1,029	
Temporary Teeth .. .. .	4,104	
	<b>TOTAL (9)</b>	<b>5,133</b>
(10) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction ..	1,444	
(11) Orthodontics:		
(a) Cases commenced during the year .. .. .	48	
(b) Cases carried forward from previous year .. .. .	28	
(c) Cases completed during the year .. .. .	20	
(d) Cases discontinued during the year .. .. .	3	
(e) Pupils treated with appliances .. .. .	78	
(f) Removable appliances fitted .. .. .	78	
(g) Fixed appliances fitted .. .. .	—	
(h) Total attendances .. .. .	300	
(12) Number of pupils supplied with artificial dentures .. ..	21	
(13) Other operations: Permanent teeth .. .. .	602	
Temporary teeth .. .. .	395	
	<b>TOTAL (13)</b>	<b>997</b>





